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9 FEATURE RECORD STORE DAY

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cover credit

IMAGE BY EMILY UTNE

Editorial

EDITOR Pete Kotz

MANAGING EDITOR Hannah Sayle

WEB EDITOR Michael Rietmulder

NEWS EDITOR Mike Mullen

MUSIC EDITOR Jay Boller

ARTS EDITOR Jessica Armbruster

STAFF WRITERS Susan Du,

Cory Zurowski

FOOD CRITIC Mecca Bos

COPY CHIEF Bridgette Reinsmoen

PROOFREADER Bryan Miller

CLUBS EDITOR Erik Thompson

CONTRIBUTING WRITERS

Jerard Fagerbera, Jay Gabler.

Jerard Fagerberg, Jay Gabler,
Sheila Regan, Jack Spencer, Youa Vang
CONTRIBUTING PHOTOGRAPHERS
Galen Fletcher, Alma Guzman,
Bruce Kluckhohn, E. Katie Holm,
Sasha Landskov, Shelly Mosman,
Tony Nelson, Colin Michael Simmons

Art

ART DIRECTOR Emily Utne LAYOUT EDITOR Holly Hilgenberg

Production

DESIGN MANAGER Dana Holmay SENIOR GRAPHIC DESIGNER Teri Springer

Publisher

Mary Erickson

Advertising SALES DIRECTOR Leah Parkinson

AGENCY SALES MANAGER Tony Englund
SENIOR ACCOUNT EXECUTIVES Leah Carson,
Kevin Lenhart, Nick Rupar,
Brian Thunberg
ACCOUNT EXECUTIVES Sydney Ashton,
Trista Blodgett, Kevin Boulware,
Jacob Johnston, Liz Walker
SENIOR MULTIMEDIA ACCOUNT EXECUTIVE
Mike Yanke
DIGITAL PRODUCT MANAGER Kibra Paulos

Lindsay Sipe Marketing and Promotions

AGENCY ACCOUNT MANAGER Joey Ryan ACCOUNT MANAGERS Annie Butler,

MARKETING DIRECTOR Holly Hunt
MARKETING COORDINATOR Lacey Richgels

Circulation

CIRCULATION MANAGER Tom Imbertson

Business and Administration

ACCOUNTING CLERK Candace Baker

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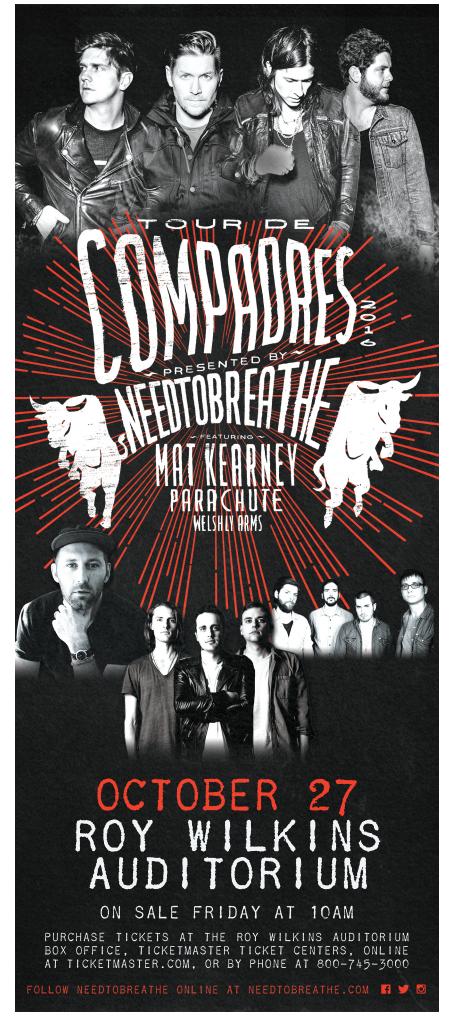
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THE SHORTLIST



THE STAT SHEET

Congressional Republicans have voted 62 times to repeal Obamacare, even though the law has proven remarkably effective in expanding health care coverage:

Percentage of U.S. adults now uninsured, down from 17 percent in 2013

Percentage of uninsured people age 26-34, down from 28 percent in 2013

Percentage of uninsured black people, down from 20 percent three years ago

Percentage of uninsured people making less than \$36,000, down from 30 percent three years ago

"You're now a racist if you say schools need to be safer."

Headline of a New York Post story about the suspension of St. Paul teacher Theo Olson.

NATIONAL INSECURITY

THOUGH MUCH OF AMERICA is freaking out about the possibility of a Donald Trump presidency, someone equally depraved is waiting in the wings: Ted Cruz.

Clare Lopez, Cruz's national security advisor, appeared on a St. Cloud radio show to declare that Muslims had overtaken parts of Minneapolis. Since police are too afraid to patrol these areas, says Lopez, residents are now living under Sharia Law.

This, of course, would be news to the Minneapolis PD, who say they're only afraid to patrol Uptown for fear they'll develop a fondness for artisanal cheeses.

POPULAR STORIES

AT CITYPAGES.COM

MENARDS caught threatening workers with docked pay for trying to unionize

Watch MERLE HAGGARD, WILLIE **NELSON** record Dylan's 'Don't Think Twice, It's Alright'

10 GREAT PLACES TO EAT in downtown Minneapolis

Did misogyny sabotage ILHAM OMAR'S bid for a DFL endorsement?

SINCLAIR LEWIS' old Summit Avenue home is on sale for \$1.1 million

GOLD-PLATED SEWERS

How the Met Council is keeping small businesses from expanding

uhel Islam, co-owner of the Long-

fellow restaurant Gandhi Mahal, nearly shat himself.
Weeks earlier, Islam had opened a 24-seat expansion to his restaurant. Now he had received a letter from the Met Council, saying he owed for something called a "Sewer Availability Charge." The Council, which operates the sewer and water lines in the seven-county metro area, had sent him a bill for his added burden to the infrastructure.

The figure: \$24,000.

"I had no idea about [the charge]," Islam says. "When I presented my plans to the city, no one mentioned it. Looking back, I doubt I would have expanded. I'm already in a high-risk business in which cash flow is so important. I guess I was lucky because they gave me an installment plan to pay it off."

The Sewer Availability Charge is imposed

for each new connection or increase in use of the Metropolitan Disposal System. It requires no new pipes or adjusted hook ups. Yet there's no other fee as large for small businesses in the Twin Cities.

Ann and Randy Erickson have owned Keen Eye Coffee just north of Roosevelt High School for almost three years. The couple wanted to add outdoor seating on the sidewalk out front. It would've consisted of six chairs and three small tables. They kiboshed the initiative after learning it would require a sewer charge of about \$1,500.

The same can be said for Marla Jadoonanan, who's owned Marla's Caribbean Cuisine for 10 years. She was looking to add two to four outdoor tables to her 32-person capacity restaurant. She also eyed the possibility of a 1,000-square-foot expansion, in which 20 seats would be added.

She called the Council for months, trying



According to the Met Council, six new chairs on the patio are worth \$1,500 in extra fees.

KEEN EYE COFFEE

to find out what the charge might be. She's yet to receive an answer. Meanwhile, she learned about what happened at Gandhi Mahal. Her expansion plan is dead.

"If I was to receive a \$24,000 bill," Jadoonanan says, "it would make me shut my doors. I'm a small business owner. I invest every dollar back into the business. I could understand if this was a fair fee, but it's not. It seems disproportionately high for small businesses like me."

Gandhi Mahal's expansion led to 15 new jobs and amped his cash flow, which he needs to pay the Council.

"I appreciate them allowing us to pay in installments. I do," says Islam, who negotiated his total bill down to \$12,000. "But it's still a lot of money for any small business."

Repeated messages left for Toni Janzig of the Council's sewer program were not returned. —cory zurowski



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Minnesota's Favorite Myth

The Kensington Runestone tells us more about the present than the past

Swedish farmer walks into his field. Stop me if you've heard One day in 1898, Olof Ohman

was just about to cut down a poplar tree on his land in Kensington, Minnesota, when he noticed a big, flat stone, carved with script he didn't recognize.

Ohman called on his neighbor, Nils. The two of them started digging in hopes the stone might mark buried Native American

In fact, they'd discovered a different kind of treasure: proof that Vikings had come to Minnesota - 130 years before Columbus left Spain. The inscription told of the Norsemen's short stint in this land. One day some of them went fishing. When they returned, they found 10 of their fellow marauders dead, massacred by the natives.

Within a year, what had come to be called the Kensington Runestone was declared a hoax. Among other problems, its inscription used umlauts. Those little markings above Swedish-language letters were not used in carvings the Vikings left behind. They would, however, have been second nature to a guy who moved from Sweden to Minnesota in 1881.

Just why Ohman would have scammed his fellow Minnesotans was a mystery. He certainly didn't do it to get rich. Ohman eventually sold his "artifact" to the Minnesota Historical Society for all of \$10.

By that time, the story was out of his hands. Myths, like rivers, tend to carve their own paths. Big lies give meaning to the small truth of our lives.

So it was that Minnesotans made use of Olof Ohman's mythical runestone. It

gave roots to European immigrants who found themselves in a strange land. And the story of an American Indian-led massacre made some feel better about the white man's appalling slaughters of natives a generation earlier.

Hjalmar Holand, a Norwegian-born Wisconsinite who got his start as a traveling book salesman, spent decades trying to prove the stone's authenticity. Holand traveled the Midwest documenting big rocks with holes in them: mooring sta-

"It's a monument to Scandinavian frontier humor."

tions, Holand theorized, where the Vikings would have anchored their ships.

Meanwhile, John Ireland, the immigrant Archbishop of the St. Paul Diocese, pointed to the stone's religious invocation — "Ave Maria, save from evil," reads the stone's last line — as evidence that the Scandinavians who predated Columbus were Catholics. He and other church leaders used the stone to convert Minnesotans of Nordic heritage back into the fold.

It worked well enough. There's an 8:30 a.m. mass every Sunday morning at Our Lady of the Runestone church in Kensington.

The stone itself moved on to nearby Alexandria, where it's housed in a museum that places it alongside foundational Minnesota bloodlettings like the U.S.-Dakota War and the Civil War. But the stone's pull would wane.

"I didn't think about it a lot growing up," says historian David M. Krueger, who grew up in Alexandria. "It had kind of grown out of fashion by the 1970s and '80s."

It's now making a comeback. A number of amateur historians and boosters have circled back to reargue its case. In 2009, around the time it ran out of actual history to sell, the History Channel aired a documentary called Holy Grail in America. Relying heavily on the research of forensic geologist Scott Wolter, a Chanhassen native, the show suggested the stone was evidence that the last of the Knights Templar had relocated to central Minnesota.

Wolter parlayed his performance into a full-fledged series called *Unearthing* America. In a subsequent episode, he explored the possibility that a Minnesota farmer's discovery of the bones of a "giant" might be yet more proof that Vikings had made it here.

The Kensington Runestone even has its own website, which explains that, despite 100 years of scurrilous attacks against it, the tablet has "recently proven to be authentic," inspiring a "major rewrite of American history."

That the myth lives on, and is only gaining in strength, tells us a lot more about modern Americans than marooned 14th-century Vikings. There has always existed a peculiar and distinctively American anti-intellectual populism. We are not so easily convinced by geeky experts.

Krueger, who has since written a book about the stone's continuing hold on Min-



Mike Mullen

nesota's imagination, is confused about why there is such interest in finding a thread to a white America before Columbus. (Consider the Mormons, who believe that Jesus Christ got here 1,300 years before Ohman's Vikings did.)

"There is a power to myth, and historians talk about creating a usable past," Krueger says. "It's helpful. But it's disturbing that, on one level, Americans are only interested in pre-Columbian North American history if white people are involved."

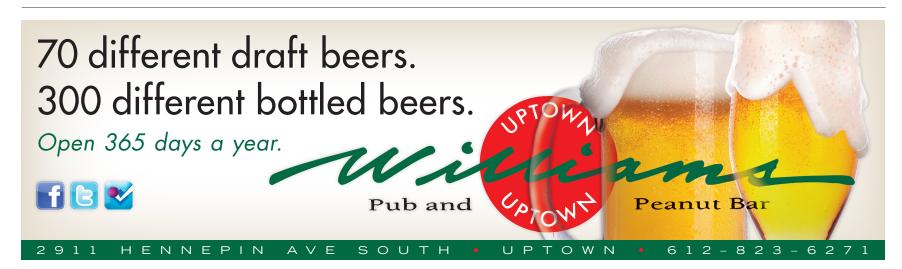
If we learned more about the non-white pre-Columbus days, what would we find? More myths. The Ojibwe tell the story of Nanabozho, forced to start civilization anew after he was the sole survivor of a great flood. Sound familiar?

The best interpretation of the Kensington Runestone came from the late historian Russell Fridley, longtime leader of the state historical society. It's not even a hoax, Fridley said, but a "monument to Scandinavian frontier humor."

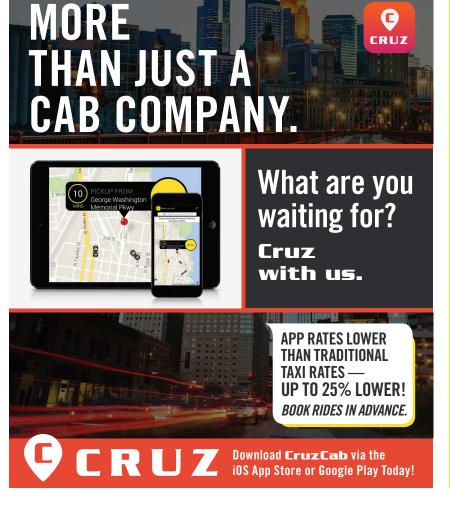
Olof Ohman lived another 40 years after discovering the stone, and never once changed his story. If it really was a joke, he's the only one who got it.

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10 BEST TWIN CITIES RECORD STORES

Celebrating great music-buying destinations ahead of RECORD STORE DAY

BY GRACE BIRNSTENGEL

ou've heard it one million times before — the Twin Cities has great record stores.

There are longstanding icons like Treehouse and the Electric Fetus that even get foot traffic from turntable-less customers hoping the coolness of the creaky floors and dusty racks will rub off on them. There are DIY-spaces like Dead Media, record label-affiliated joints like Fifth Element, and brand-spankin'-new shops like Flashlight Vinyl, where the minimalistic aesthetic guarantees at least 30 Insta-

gram likes per shot.

These spaces don't just work alongside or complement the local music scene — they're deeply embedded in the lives of local and touring musicians. On any given night, a Twin Cities record store is transformed into a concert venue, a book-signing arena, or a workshop space.

In the spirit of Saturday's Record Store Day festivities, we decided to shine a light on the best indie record shops in town. You'll find the standbys, but also newer, millennial-run operations hoping to feed your vinyl addiction.

AGHARTA RECORDS

2512 UNIVERSITY AVE. W., ST. PAUL

Nestled on the border of Minneapolis and St. Paul on University Avenue, Agharta is one of the newer stores in this bunch. Owner Dylan Adams was a longtime server ("I spent most of my life asking people what kind of dressing they wanted on their salad," he quips), but eventually put his growing record collection to good use by opening Agharta. Since opening in 2014, the Agharta space has doubled in size. Adams doesn't limit himself to particular genres, though he says the store currently weighs heavily with metal records. "They have good taste," says record collector and singersongwriter Georgia Ramin (a.k.a. Miss Georgia Peach). "The last time I was there, their rap selection in 'recent arrivals' was unmatched anywhere I've literally ever been."

Rarest LP: A signed copy of Black Sabbath's Attention! Black Sabbath!, a rare German compilation. Adams says it's "priceless," but he'll entertain offers.

Clientele: Men from their late teens to early 60s who come in alone and spend \$20-\$30, according to Adams.

CHEAPO RECORDS

2600 NICOLETT AVE. S., MINNEAPOLIS

They say quality is better than quantity, but when it comes to music, quality is relative, and if you can't find something vou like at Cheapo Records' Minneapolis location, there is no helping you. Still big-box store-ish in terms of size, Cheapo's new location on Nicollet Avenue is actually a downsized version of its massive 17-year home on Lake Street, which is unsurprisingly being replaced by a Target. Relocated to Eat Street in September, Cheapo is the least try-hard record store of them all. There are no frills, no flashy highlights, just a warehouse-looking building with red and white signage for days. It's reliable; it's cheap. Cheapo has two additional locations in St. Paul and Blaine.

Rarest LP: They've got a Grateful Dead box set for \$100, a Beatles "butcher cover" (the original/label-rejected version of *Yesterday and Today* picturing the smiling band amid headless toy dolls and guts) for \$250, and a Led Zeppelin box set for \$140.

Clientele: Baby boomers, according to manager Neill Olson. Though since the vinyl surge, a younger crowd has flocked to Cheapo, he reports.

DEAD MEDIA

3330 E. 25TH ST., MINNEAPOLIS

Dead Media hit the Seward neighborhood about a year and a half ago as another project from record-collecting giant John Kass. Kass eventually handed the Dead Media stock and reins over to a new trio of owners - Walker Neudorff, Simon Brooks, and Colin Wilkinson who shifted the store's focus to carrying a depth and breadth of cassette tapes. "Most record stores don't keep up on or represent cassette labels, particularly locals," Neudorff says. Dead Media has volunteer cashiers, and its dedication to connecting with and showcasing local artists via selling their tapes, housing in-store shows, and selling 'zines aplenty gives this spot a unique grassroots vibe.

Rarest LP: On the Dead Media walls rests a blank vinyl slab with no markings that was discovered in the basement. Neudorff speculates that it's a rare original mix of The Velvet Underground & Nico, but no one has listened to it. It's yours for \$699.99. Seriously.

Clientele: Neudorff describes Dead Media customers as "everything from young teens to elderly folks buying classic rock." The proximity from acrossthe-street hip dining spot Birchwood Café brings in a good amount of traffic, he says.



ELECTRIC FETUS

2000 FOURTH AVE. S., MINNEAPOLIS

For Twin Cities music lovers, the Electric Fetus brings to mind sensations like the smell of incense and the sound of creaky hardwood floors. The almost 50-year-old Fetus is perhaps the most inviting shop around. Its quirky and local gifts and clothing section creates a short buffer between the entrance and the

record bins. The store finds that hardto-reach balance of friendly and serious, providing multi-genre, time-spanning music in a non-pretentious way. Shopper Liz Davis does most of her record buying at the Fetus, especially during 50-cent record sales. "Who knows what you're going to find that day?" she says. "I like going in there and searching and perusing for my favorite records."

Rarest LP: It fluctuates, but currently the Fetus has an original pressing of Alexander "Skip" Spence's Oar going for

Clientele: The Fetus' hardcore record collectors are generally 30-year-old-plus guys, but advertising and marketing manager Dawn Novak says she sometimes sees three generations of a family shopping together.

EXTREME NOISE

407 W. LAKE ST., MINNEAPOLIS

Most record stores have a punk section. Extreme Noise is one massive punk section that branches off into different subgenres. The volunteer-run store turned 20 in 2014, and is now in its third (and hopefully final) location. Ryan Lowe, a collective member of Extreme Noise, moved to Minneapolis in 2001 largely because of the era's lively punk scene and for Extreme Noise itself. It's safe to say he's found his dream job, as he now spends his time ordering about half of the store's inventory. Avid collector and volunteer Alex Blillman, who has more than 1,000 LPs to her name, is attracted to the store because of its DIY ethos. "[Extreme Noise is] concerned with supporting the community and making punk music as accessible as possible," she says.





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Rarest LP: Situationist Comedy from Dillinger Four on pink vinyl from the Minneapolis punk greats' 2001 release show. It goes for \$125.

Clientele: It's not necessarily the mohawked, leather jacket-sporting crowd you'd expect, according to Lowe. He says the shop attracts a surprisingly diverse crowd, but "not as many kids these days."

FIFTH ELEMENT

2411 HENNEPIN AVE. S., MINNEAPOLIS

Fifth Element functions not only as the sole Twin Cities hip-hop-focused record store, but also as the heart of all things Rhymesayers Entertainment (the label's offices are located upstairs). Arriving just four years after Rhymesayers' formation in 1995, the store goes beyond distributing RSE artists, filling a void with an expansive selection of hip-hop records. Fifth Element has a substantial role in the annual Soundset Music Festival, sells DJ and music production equipment, and hosts small DJ sets and open mic nights.

Rarest LP: Raekwon's Only Built 4 Cuban Linx... (a.k.a. The Purple Tape) for \$60.

Clientele: "Anyone you would see walking down Hennepin," Fifth Element employee Paul Cameron says. "Mostly middle-aged guys who keep up to date with new music."

FLASHLIGHT VINYL

1519 CENTRAL AVE. NE, MINNEAPOLIS

Flashlight is the rookie on the list. Its doors opened just a couple months ago, with a sleek black-and-white design and dedication to exclusively 12-inch vinyl. Owned and operated by Raoul Benavides, Flashlight is likely the only record store in the Twin Cities with two floors, with the second one housing funk, soul, R&B, and hip-hop selections, plus 5,000 \$1 records. With barely any outdoor signage, the shop

filled a huge record-buying need in northeast Minneapolis.

Rarest LP: A \$1,500 copy of Rammellzee and K-Rob's Beat Bop. It came out on Jean-Michel Basquiat's label Tartown in 1983 with a limited run of 500. "It's considered to be the holy grail of rap records because of its custom artwork by [Basquiat]," Benavides says.

Clientele: A family, Benavides says. On a recent day, we saw parents buying '70s and '80s stuff, and their teen kids buying Run the Jewels and Arctic Monkeys.

HYMIE'S VINTAGE RECORDS

3820 E. LAKE ST., MINNEAPOLIS

Walking into Hymie's Vintage Records is like coming home. Dave and Laura Hoenack own and operate the store together, and Laura describes herself as being like Mr. Hooper, the Sesame Street shopkeeper who watches the community grow from behind the counter. "I just wanna run the corner store," Laura says. Opened in 1988 by Jim "Hymie" Peterson, the East Lake store isn't boutique-like, and it's not curated like other shops, Laura says. It's just a growing, ever-changing collection of everything and anything, as well as a performance space where local bands can entertain handfuls of people among record crates. Record collector Christian Fritz, who owns the record label Mpls Ltd, says loving Hymie's is simple: They go the extra mile to have a great local selection and cater to local artists.

Rarest LP: They don't know! That's not really the point of Hymie's, Laura

Clientele: Laura says there are two different types of collectors she sees at Hymie's - people who really love records, and people who really love music. The former obsess over the perfect editions and untouched covers, while the latter just want to hear copious amounts of music.





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IT RECORDS

13 FIFTH ST. NE, MINNEAPOLIS

It Records is the speakeasy equivalent of record stores. With no outdoor signage indicating its existence, It Records exists in a room within vintage furniture store FindFurnish. It's the decade-later resurrection of Nicollet's Mall's Let It Be Records, having taken Let It Be owner Ryan Cameron's LP collective and given it a new home in northeast Minneapolis. The It Records room is very compact, but according to FindFurnish co-owner Marie Zellar, the selection is potent.

"There's not a lot, but there's no crap," she says. "If I ever go bankrupt, that's why." The placement within an already operational store actually adds charm to It Records.

Rarest LP: When valuable stuff falls in his lap, Cameron keeps the "big buck" stuff for online sales. The most expensive

records are around \$50, but he often sells older techno and hip-hop records online for higher prices.

Clientele: Because of its linkage to FindFurnish, shoppers who come in as couples often split off into the "record shopper" and the "furniture shopper," according to FindFurnish co-owner Erik Wivinus. Everyone's happy!

TREEHOUSE RECORDS

2557 LYNDALE AVE. S., MINNEAPOLIS

"We've always sold vinyl," Treehouse Records owner Mark Trehus says. Even

in the '90s when CDs dominated, Treehouse was a tireless supplier of vinyl. "We were one of the last indie stores to finally get CDs," Trehus notes, though the recent vinyl resurgence has certainly been a boon to the store. The smallish vet celebrated shop formerly known as Oar Folkjokeopus is steeped in local music lore, as it was the go-to hangout for '80s punk bands, most notably the Replacements.

Rarest LP: Treehouse boasts a \$7,500 original copy of the Shaggs' Philosophy of the World — not the reissued version, Trehus points out. He also has a \$1,000 copy of the Dead Weather's Blue Blood Blues with an additional 7-inch buried inside, and a copy of Mind & Matter's I'm Under Your Spell for \$500.

Clientele: People who want to listen outside of the box. Trehus says his customers' music tastes and ambitions align more with what's on KFAI and Radio K than the Current.

OTHER GREAT STORES:

Barely Brothers Down in the Valley **Eclipse Records** HiFi Hair and Records Into the Void **Know Name Records** Roadrunner Records



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BY RAGHAV MEHTA

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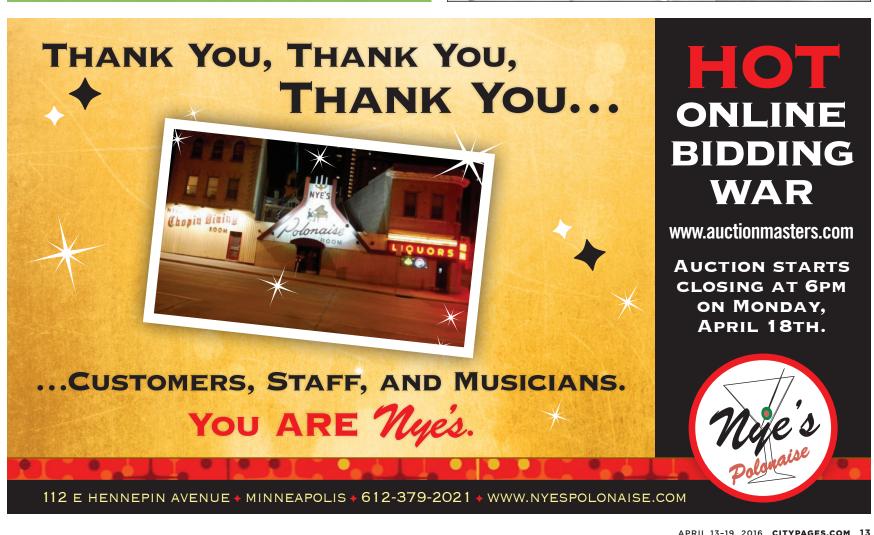


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BY JERARD FAGERBERG

Dead Media

Looking over the lineup, south Minneapolis' Dead Media has easily the most exciting roster of local bands. Sponsored by Radio K, the day includes sets from Animal Lover, Naïve Sense, Pale Spectre, Kitten Forever, and Rupert Angeleyes starting at noon and running all day. Local labels No Problem Records, Night People Records, Forged Artifacts, MJMJ, and Fuck Mountain will be spinning DJ sets featuring their best releases from 2016. On top of all that, all used records are marked down 50 percent.

Electric Fetus

The Fetus has a slew of marquee sponsors, including Glam Doll Donuts, Twin Town Guitars, and Dangerous Man Brewing, who'll be giving out vouchers to try its RSD beer for the second year in a row. In the Red Bull Sound Select Lounge, DJ Funsize will host kiddie-friendly RSD activities, and a top-notch batch of locals will run the main stage, including Magic Castles, the Honeydogs, I Self Devine, and Muja Messiah.

Extreme Noise

Minneapolis' DIY punk record store will be doing its regular diligence for Record Store Day this year. That means discounts, grilled veggie dogs, extended hours, and raffles for special-edition screen-printed shirts. There's a bunch of bands that'll take the stage starting at noon, but a lineup hasn't been finalized yet.

Fifth Element

The Rhymesayers playhouse always has label exclusives that hip-hop heads line up for, and this year, they'll be selling deM atlaS' breakout 2014 EP DWNR for the first time ever on vinyl - with covers hand drawn by deM atlaS. Select vinyl will be marked down 20 percent. Plus deM will be in-store to perform DWNR in full, and he'll be joined by some of the state's hottest MCs, namely Desdamona, Tall Paul, and Baby Shel, who's performing with DJ Quincy James.

Flashlight Vinyl

Flashlight Vinyl believes Record Store Day should be Record Store Weekend. They'll be open for 36 continuous hours from Saturday at 8 a.m. to Sunday at 8 p.m. Bogart's

Doughnuts will be serving free coffee and doughnuts for the early risers on Saturday. Music will be a constant presence at the newly opened shop, with DJ sets from DJ Snuggles, Travis Ramin, DJ Marinos, and Egypto Knuckles, plus gigs from Carnage the Executioner and Marah in Mainsail. among many others that have yet to be announced.

Hymie's Vintage Records

Hymie's has long been the go-to place for RSD, and they're celebrating that fact by releasing a 12-track LP of songs recorded at their past shindigs. The run will be extremely short (around 300 copies), so get there early if you wanna score one. As always, Hymie's will be running two stages of local shows from 11 a.m. to close. Among the performers: Charlie Parr, Bruise Violet, What Tyrants, Chastity Brown, Corpse Reviver, and Shadow in the Cracks.

Roadrunner Records

Roadrunner has been hoarding what they call "blue chip" records in their stockroom, and they'll finally be releasing the cache to the public on RSD. Weather permitting. they'll also be out in the lot grilling food and selling beers, with groups like the Starfolk and Kinks tribute band Kinda Kinky playing on stage from noon to 4 p.m.

Barely Brothers Records

Doors at Barley Brothers open at 9 a.m., and the recently minted St. Paul shop will be welcoming a full roster of music starting at noon. Bands range from jazz to blues to Americana to rock. Discounts are probable but to be determined. Among the performers: Tabah, Ringout!, and more.

Eclipse Records

Matty Werner from Eclipse promises the shortest lines in St. Paul on RSD, but that's not all. The sunny shop will also have DJs including Danny Sigelman and Dosh going all day, and limited-edition screenprinted Eclipse RSD posters. A parking lot petting zoo was mentioned, too.

For much more info about RSD concerts, parties, and sales, head to www.citypages. com/music.



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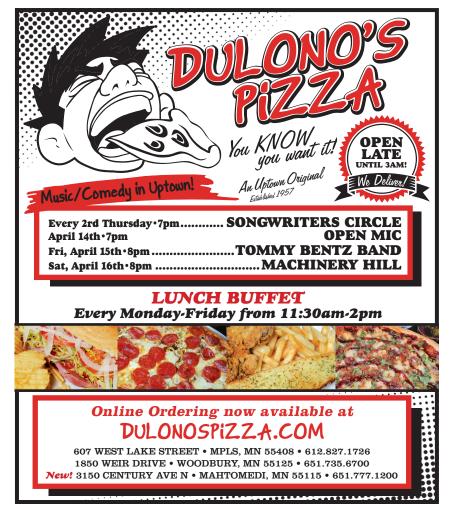
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COOPERATIVE DISSONANCE

Can the Seward Co-op Creamery survive as a cafe by day and progressive restaurant by night?



ALMA GUZMAN

BY MECCA BOS

he Co-op Creamery Café is a tale of two restaurants.

By day, it's an approachable Midwestern cafe, one that takes inspiration from small-town menu classics—buttermilk pancakes, farm fresh omelettes, a good Reuben. By night, it's something much different. It's an ambitious place sourcing only from small organic farms, showcasing the glory of the vegetable, attempting to make old favorites new again. Can this approach work?

When local grocery store cooperative Seward Co-op opened this "third space," the restaurant was designed to be a gathering place for co-op members and the Seward community. They had a huge opportunity, and they set out with serious ambition.

The Creamery is a no-tipping restaurant. In the interest of making a more equitable workplace for all staff, price points are slightly higher than market rate and all employees receive a steady, livable wage. If a customer chooses to leave a gratuity, the funds are donated to a regularly rotating charity.

The majority of the Creamery's ingredients are organic and locally sourced through the co-op's stores, and so the menu fluctuates regularly to reflect seasonality and tremors in the supply chain. Though many restaurants promote this ideal, few are able to follow through on it wholesale — it's just too expensive. Because Seward is a co-op, the Creamery can do it.

By day, the restaurant is what the neighborhood seems to want and need. An open and airy cafe holds a bakery case filled with

blush-colored cupcakes and deep chocolate tortes, beer on tap, affordable wine by the glass, a truly great burger, eggs your way, chicken and waffle sandwiches, and a powerful Caesar salad with bright baby kale.

By night, the lights are dimmed and the menu seems designed to provoke you. In place of the usual casual starter list of easy salads, shared charcuterie plates, and dependable soups, you'll find instead a list of seven all-vegetable appetizers.

Chef Lucas Almendinger says he went this route because he thinks the Twin Cities are behind the times when it comes to treating vegetables like the main event. Price points are lower on vegetables, so he can still get progressive without getting overly spendy. Plus the flow of "ugly" vegetables from the store gives him a great opportunity to give produce a second chance.

CO-OP CREAMERY CAFÉ

2601 E. Franklin Ave., Minneapolis 612-230-5575 menu items: \$7-\$24 coopcreamery.com

Noble ideals, all.

And he does get progressive. On the appetizer list are things like caramelized salsify with grapefruit, chili, Thai basil, and Mexican tea; and braised sunchokes with caramelized apple, cashew pudding, and pickled mustard seed. You'll pay anywhere between \$8 and \$16 for these creations, which can feel like a lot when you really have no idea what, precisely, will arrive on the plate.

While this kind of anticipation has its occasional charms — in a chef's table situation, for instance, where you pay a flat fee

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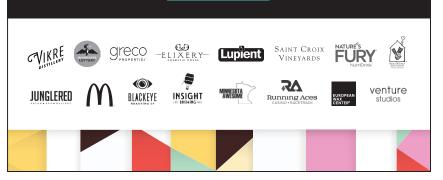
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By night, the menu

seems designed to

provoke you.

The bakery case and coffee-shop setting make for a perfect casual daytime outing.

ALMA GUZMAN

for the pleasure of having a chef toy with your palate — even then you only want it on special occasions. Here, it can seem out of place.

Happily, things return to somewhat more familiar territory in the entrees section. The burger is worth traveling for, with highest-quality grass-fed beef cooked to rosy medium rare, fried onions, onion jam, and bruleed Swiss. It's simple enough, not overwrought, and devourable. Bucatini was another win-

ner, with housemade pasta, the deep gaminess of cured duck, and classic tomato, chili, and Parmesan.

But even here, things can get overly mod. A fried chicken entree arrived like three oversized

chicken nuggets with dry breast meat, a pleasant enough honey-sambal glaze, and a couple of wee sweet potato biscuits. At \$15, it felt a little paltry, and it didn't benefit from the overthinking.

The dining room, attractive and airy as it is, will never be mistaken for a fine-dining place. Industrial flooring, a bakery case, sensible wooden furniture — it feels most suited to a daytime outing or casual evening dining. When you come bombing in wearing sneakers with the toddler and the carseat in tow, an intellectual confrontation with caramelized yogurt or "smoke" just doesn't seem like the thing.

And while the Creamery is a no-tipping restaurant, an experiment other local restaurants have tried and some have since abandoned (most notably Upton 43), sticker shock can still be a factor. Are you prepared to pay \$18 for a moderate portion of pasta, or \$24 for pan-roasted venison in a coffeeshop setting? Gratuity or no gratuity, those are potentially intimidating numbers.

The cooking works best during the day, with classics, or classics with a twist. A club sandwich with two inches of turkey and smoky bacon was perfect, as was the crunchy fried chicken on Tamari fried rice with kimchee and a couple of bouncy poached eggs. Ditto the prototype-perfect buttermilk blueberry pancakes with a float of airy whip and dusting of lemon zest (although there goes that sticker shock again at \$12 for two pancakes.) A lamb Reuben tendered

a restrained flourish on the classic, with good and dark Russian rye heavily buttered and toasted, plus Swiss, sauerkraut, and Thousand Island amalgamating to make a drippy, satisfying mess.

There are flashes of truly inspired cooking here — cooking better than any humble cafe should ever hope to have. "The broccoli" ate like exactly that: An otherworldly green oval of puree anchors a garden of morel mushrooms, charred broccoli florets, briny pickled plum, and shards of sesame cracker. But is it wrong to feel that we'd have rather had it next to an affordable bistro-style flat-iron steak?

The best thing about inspired chefs is that they are inspired. And the worst thing about inspired chefs is that they are inspired. They have ideas that they need to get out, even if the ideas fall on mystified palates and pocketbooks.

Between the chef's inspirations and the lofty ideals of the cooperative, dining at the Creamery can feel like a restaurant designed by committee. Which, of course, it is. Here's to hoping the committee can gather 'round that espresso machine and work out a common vision. Their very name depends on it.







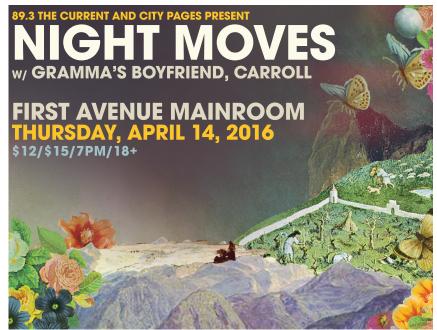


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FRIDAY Tim and Thom Navarro's Black Hearts Ball P. 25

SATURDAY New works from Amy Rice P. 28

SUNDAY A science fair for adults (with beer!) P. 29

WEDNESDAY 4/13

READING R.T. RYBAK

FIRST AVENUE

Former mayor of Minneapolis R.T. Rybak celebrates the release of his new book. Pothole Confidential, with a blowout at First Avenue on Wednesday night. The lifelong Minneapolitan, known for his stage-diving propensity and infectious energy, will share highlights from the autobiography, which covers his threeterm mayoral tenure. Pothole Confidential is both a politician's coming-of-age tale and the story of a constantly changing city. From the North Side tornado to same-sex marriages to the new Vikings stadium, Rybak writes about the major achievements and upheavals of his hometown through objective, journalistic eves. Big Trouble, dVRG, Chris Koza, Lucy Michelle, Toki Wright, Terry Walsh, and the World's Most Dangerous Polka Band will provide a live soundtrack for the evening. Sebastian Joe's will have ice cream on hand, including the Flavor Formerly Known as Nicollet Avenue Pothole. The philanthropyminded Rybak has also earmarked this event as a fundraiser to support the city of Minneapolis STEP-UP youth employment program. 18+. \$10. 6 p.m. 701 First Ave. N., Minneapolis: 612-338-8388. **—ERICA RIVERA**

COMEDY PETE LEE

ACME COMEDY CO.

"I've spent most of my career on the road," says Pete Lee. "So, about a year ago I decided to downshift and stay home in New York City and perform more and audition more." This shift makes his upcoming appearance at Acme Comedy Co. that much more special. "I just get to let loose. I'm usually doing just 15-minute sets in New York, but at Acme I'll get to go for an hour." Outside of standup, Lee has been working on Best Week Ever on truTV and NFL Rush on Nickelodeon. "The NFL basically gets kids into the NFL very early on," he notes of the latter gig. "I do a little blooper segment. I get to dress up like an NFL commentator

and go into the NFL Live studio and wear a big shiny suit and basically do an impression of an NFL show host all while making light-hearted kids' jokes." Onstage, he recently became a regular performer at New York's famous Comedy Cellar, which has been both challenging and thrilling. "One night I followed Chris Rock, Louis CK, and Tracy Morgan. I was the guy that volunteered to go up after that murderer's row. I was like, 'I'll do it. I'll try it.'" \$15-\$18. 8 p.m. Wednesday through Saturday; 10:30 p.m. Friday and Saturday. 708 N. First St., Minneapolis; 612-338-6393.

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THURSDAY 4/14

BEER

SOCIAL SCIENCE: FERMENTATIONAL INFORMATIONAL

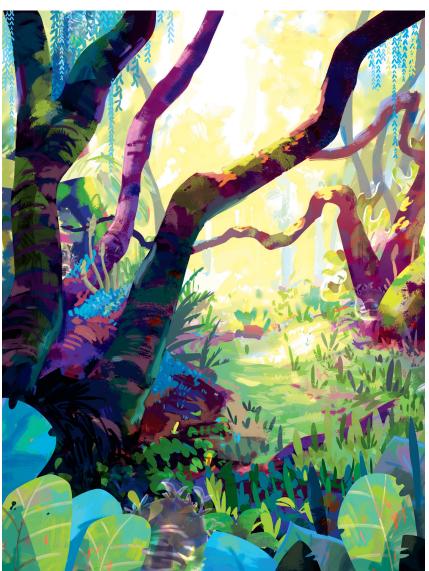
SCIENCE MUSEUM OF MINNESOTA

This trip to the Science Museum might require a babysitter (or at least an Uber). On Thursday, Fermentational Informational returns as part of Social Science, the museum's ongoing adultsonly series. This chapter explores the biology and chemistry of beer, such as how fermentation works, as well as physics demonstrations on alcohol's impact on the body. In other words, learn how it's made and what it does while testing it out for yourself. Admission includes 10 free samples from breweries like Fair State, Flat Earth, LTD, Lupulin, and Castle Danger, and there will be a cash bar as well. 21+. \$22-\$35; \$15-\$22 designated driver. 6 to 11 p.m. 120 W. Kellogg Blvd., St. Paul; 651-221-9444. -LOREN GREEN

FILM

THE MINNEAPOLIS HITCHCOCK FESTIVAL

HEIGHTS AND RIVERVIEW THEATERS
The Minneapolis Hitchcock Festival
offers a veritable tour of the world,
provided one not mind a little murder
and mayhem along the way. In foggy
San Francisco, a psychologically fragile
former police detective becomes



Light Grey Art Lab's "Botanica" celebrates all things found in nature, from tiny flowers to giant mountains.

NICHOLAS KENNEDY

dangerously obsessed with the enigmatic woman he's been paid to tail (*Vertigo*, 1958). Along the glamorous French Riviera, a retired cat burglar endeavors to capture the perpetrator of a string of thefts and prove his innocence to a wealthy socialite (*To Catch a Thief*, 1955). Aboard a railroad route, an eccentric man's proposition to exchange murder targets is treated as a joke... until the unwary recipient discovers that his estranged wife has been killed (*Strangers on a Train*, 1951). Crossing into Cold War-

era East Germany, a double agent dodges sinister forces and the suspicions of his fiancée to secure top-secret information (*Torn Curtain*, 1966). The series closes in Morocco, where the befriending of a stranger inadvertently draws one family into an insidious international assassination plot (*The Man Who Knew Too Much*, 1956). Charted by the Master of Suspense, this Hitchcock festival offers intrepid cinema-goers an electrifying time exploring the dark side of human

CONTINUED ON PAGE 25 ▶



FIRST AVENUE



MOD SUN BOBBY RAPS

GEAR DADDIES

THE WHISKIES \$25/8PM/18+

YOUNG MAGIC \$25/7:30PM/18+

FRIDAY, JUNE 3

OH WONDER

LANY \$20/8PM/18+

SATURDAY, APRIL 16

CAROLNE

SMITH HARRIET BROWN DJ SET BY LIP LAB

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WEDNESDAY, MAY 4

THE STRUTS

MADE VIOLENT \$16/\$18/7:30PM/18+

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BASTARDS

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FRIDAY, APRIL 22 &





WEDNESDAY, MAY 25

89.3 THE CURRENT AND CITY PAGES PRESENT

BOB MOULD





89.3 THE CURRENT PRESENTS
CHARLES BRADLEY AND HIS EXTRAORDINAIRES \$20/8PM/18+

THURSDAY, MAY 26



MONDAY, JUNE 13

ASAP FERG & TORY LANEZ

GRIEVES, DEM ATLAS, DJ ABILITIES, KEVIN ABSTRACT, SARAH WHITE, NAZEEM &

SPENCER JOLES, DJ ADATRAK

\$20/7PM/18+

TUESDAY, JUNE 14 YUNG LEAN

CATFISH AND THE BOTTLEMEN \$20/\$25/7PM/18+

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FIRST AVENUE & 7th St entry

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- 6/23 REVEREND HORTON HEAT w/ UNKNOWN HINSON, KOFFIN KATS, LINCOLN DURHAM 18+
- BILLY IDOL w/ THE BLIND SHAKE 18+
- 7/12 THE WOMBATS w/COAST MODERN 18+ 9/09 EXPLOSIONS IN THE SKY 18+
- 9/16 ECHO & THE BUNNYMEN 18+
- 9/17 THE SPECIALS 18+
- BELLY 18+ 9/18
- 10/09 BOYCE AVENUE BE SOMEBODY WORLD TOUR ALL AGES
 10/30 AN EVENING WITH PETER HOOK & THE LIGHT,
 PERFORMING "SUBSTANCE" JOY DIVISION &
 NEW ORDER W/ DJ JAKE RUDH (OF TRANSMISSION) 184

7TH ST ENTRY

- 4/14 NAZEEM & SPENCER JOLES "THE ALBUM" RELEASE SHOW W/ ALIBASTER JONES, CRAM, UNKNOWN CREATURES, DJ BVCKWOODS 18+
- 4/15 CARNAGE THE EXECUTIONER PRESENTS: THE MN MEAN MOVEMENT TOUR W/ KATANA DA DON, ANDRE MARIETTE WITH AYVAH & JENESSA LASOTA, AND MORE 18+
- 4/16 STEP ROCKETS w/ GRAVEYARD CLUB, DENNY 18+
- 4/17 NATHAN KALISH AND THE LASTCALLERS
- w/ STRINGDINGERS, JILL ZIMMERMAN 18+
 4/19 MATTHEW LOGAN VASQUEZ (OF DELTA SPIRIT)
- w/ REVEREND BARON 18+
- 4/21 COMMUNION: TWIN CITIES ft. JAKUBI, WALKER LUKENS, CYN, AIDAN KNIGHT 18+
- 4/22 **GET CRYPHY** 18+
- 4/23 BLEACHED w/ NO PARENTS, ROYAL BRAT 18+
- 4/24 POLKADOT MAYHEM SWEET! '16 FT. ALLY MATTSON,
 HYDRAH, DEATHDANCE, BOTZY 18+
 4/25 FRANKIE COSMOS W/ ESKIMEAUX, YOWLER 18+
- 4/26 FAT WHITE FAMILY and DILLY DALLY 18+
- 4/27 SUN CLUB w/THICK PAINT 18+
- 4/28 UMPHREY'S MCGEE AFTERPARTY ft. PHO w/ DOKS ROBOTIKS, CHALK 18+
- 4/29 COASTS W/KNOX HAMILTON, SYMMETRY 18+
- 5/01 ELI'S 32ND BIRTHDAY PARTY FT. BLOODNSTUFF, RED DAUGHTERS, HONEYSTICK, JERMAICAN JAKE 18+
- 5/02 RONIIA, CROSS RECORD, MAGGIE MORRISON 18+
- 5/03 CHRIS PUREKA W/ ANNA VOGELZANG 18+
- 5/05 THE SHIMMY FT. ELI THE PROFIT w/ LEX ALLEN, SAINT LARON, TURNSTYL, DJ BVCKWOODS, SAVY 18+
- 5/06 DAY WAVE 18+
- 5/07 FOG 'FOR GOOD' RELEASE SHOW w/ GREG GREASE, PSYMUN 18+
- 5/08 KEEGAN WHITE W/TREVOR DEVINE AND THE IMMACULATE BEINGS, SHANNON KELLY 18+
- 5/09 COUNT BASS D "INSTANTLY NEW TOUR" w/ DILLON 18+
- 5/10 JILLIAN RAE, JANELLE & THE GENTLEMEN, JULIA LUCILLE 18+
- 5/11 RIPPER and MUUY BIIEN w/TREE BLOOD 18+
 5/12 SPICE "EMPOWER" EP RELEASE SHOW w/BLUE GREEN,
 NORTH STAR WISDOM, WILL ROBINSON, AND MORE 18+
- 5/13 BLACK MOUNTAIN w/ WHITE HILLS 18+
- 5/14 DEAD LARRY W/ MOBSTER LOBSTER (EP RELEASE SHOW), **BASEMENT BREW 18+**
- 5/15 MIKE LOVE w/ JACOB CHAMPLIN AND THE BLUE JAYS 18+

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89.3 THE CURRENT PRESENTS WILD NOTHING w/WHITNEY at the TRIPLE ROCK \$15/7:30PM/18+



LITTLE GREEN CARS AND JOHN MARK NELSON at the CEDAR \$20/7PM/ALL AGES



TUESDAY, MAY 10 CATE LE BON w/ MEGA BOG at the THE CEDAR \$15/7PM/ALL AGES



ELEPHANT REVIVAL

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THURSDAY, MAY 12
MARC BROUSSARD
W/BABY BEE
at the FINE LINE
\$20/\$25/7:30PM/18+

5/13 NADA SURF w/ GOOD OLD WAR (ACOUSTIC) at the Fine Line

5/13 NADA SURF w/ GOOD OLD WAR (ACOUSTIC) at the Fine Line
5/21 SAVAGES w/ HEAD WOUND CITY at the Fine Line
5/22 CHELSEA WOLFE w/ A DEAD FOREST INDEX at the Triple Rock
5/28 MISSY HIGGINS at the Fine Line
6/03 BERNER: THE BEST THANG SMOKIN' TOUR w/ KOOL JOHN,
ANONYMOUS THAT DUDE at the Fine Line
6/04 GORDI at Icehouse
6/07 BRETT DENNEN w/ FIREKID at the Fine Line

6/11 NOTHING w/ WRONG, CULTURE ABUSE at the Triple Rock 6/18 EAGULLS at the Triple Rock

6/20 BLACK PISTOL FIRE at the Triple Rock

7/11 THE PAPER KITES at the Triple Rock
7/14 SWANS w/ OKKYUNG LEE at the Fine Line

7/23 DR. DOG w/ SHAKEY GRAVES at Surly Brewing Festival Field

7/31 WYE OAK at the Fine Line

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FRIDAY • 5/6





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- 4/15 RANDOM RAB
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- 4/17 MY DIGITAL ESCAPE
- 4/23 DATSIK





- 4/30 MINNESOTA
- 5/19 **FOUR TET**
- 5/21 DOWNLINK & DIESEL BOY
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 4/14 A LOCAL TRIBUTE TO HARRY NILSSON FT. DREAM ON NILSSON
 W/ BATTLERAT, M.T. FOYER, MRDR 7:30PM
- CHRIS HAWKEY W/ BAR CHORDS 8PM
- 4/16 OBSCURA DAY 2016: A CURIOUS BRUNCH IN THE CLOWN LOUNGE 11AM (RSVP)
- TUNES 'N 'TOONS BRUNCH W/ DEAD MEDIA 10AM-3PM (NO COVER/AA)
- 4/16 NORA JANE STRUTHERS & THE PARTY LINE W/ THE SLAMMING DOORS 8PM
- 4/17 JAZZ BRUNCH FT. THE BRYAN NICHOLS TRIO 10AM-3PM (NO COVER/AA)
- 4/19 THE THERMALS W/ SUMMER CANNIBALS, CATBATH 7:30PM
- 4/20 THE HOOD INTERNET W/ SHOWYOUSUCK, LASERS AND FAST AND SHIT 9PM
- 4/21 MINNEPSYCH FEST FT. FLAVOR CRYSTALS, THE CULT OF LIP, DEAD GURUS, PANTHER RAY, OAKS, AMERICAN CREAM, MAGNETIC GHOST 7PM
- 4/22 XTC: AN ALL STAR TRIBUTE SENSES WORKING OVERTIME IV 8PM
 4/23 THE DULUTH HOMEGROWN TWIN CITIES INVASION 2016 FT. THE HOBO
 NEPHEWS OF UNCLE FRANK, THE SOCIAL ANIMALS, SUPERIOR SIREN, AL CHURCH 8PM
- 4/26 WOODS W/ ULTIMATE PAINTING 7:30PM
- 4/28 J BOOG W/ WESTAFA, MAOLI 7:30PM
- 4/30 MATT ANDERSON & THE BONA FIDE W/ LEE HARVEY OSMOND 8PM
- 5/01 WHITE DENIM W/ SAM COHEN 7:30PM
- 5/03 THE BESNARD LAKES W/ JAILL, CHATHAM RISE 7:30PM
- 5/04 TALL HEIGHTS W/ LAULU 7:00PM
- 5/05 MILES NIELSEN & THE RUSTED HEARTS W/ FATHOM LANE, OLD DESERT ROAD 7:30PM
- 5/06 **SERATONES** W/ ELEGANZA, THE CARNEGIES 8PM
- 5/07 JOEY RYAN & THE INKS W/ BBGUN, ERIC MAYSON 8PM

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CONTINUED FROM THURSDAY ▶

nature. \$8; \$10 for Vertigo. 7:30 p.m. Thursday, April 14; 7 p.m. Mondays. Vertigo kicks off the series at the Heights (3951 Central Ave. NE, Columbia Heights; 612.424.5468), the rest will screen at the Riverview (3800 42nd Ave. S., Minneapolis; 612-729-7369).

Through May 9 - BRAD RICHASON

FRIDAY 4/15

BIKES

THIRD FRIDAYS: NIGHT OUT AT THE MUSEUM

HENNEPIN HISTORY MUSEUM

It's April, which means it's time for fairweather bikers to start riding again. You'll be able to get back in the saddle if you choose to ride to the Hennepin History Museum for its special after-hours event, Third Fridays, which this month has a bike theme. If you haven't had a chance to check out the "High Wheels" exhibit, here's your opportunity to learn about tall bikes from the 1880s through photos, antique bikes, and other ephemera from Minneapolis' golden age of cycling. At the event, the museum will have lots of adult-friendly activities, and there will be drinks available in the Fireplace Room. Make sure you try out the interactive high-wheel bike that lets you see what it was like before the modern "safety bikes" came into fashion. \$10.5 to 8 p.m. 2303 S. Third. Ave. S., Minneapolis; 612-870-1329. —SHEILA REGAN

THEATER CONSTELLATIONS

JUNGLE THEATER

Constellations, by contemporary British playwright Nick Payne, approaches romance as an irresistible blend of attraction, affection, and intellect. All

three elements are intrinsic to this clever story of an insecure physicist and an inhibited beekeeper, both striving to connect despite their own insecurities. Premised on the theory of "a quantum multiverse," in which every action, no matter how seemingly insignificant, creates innumerable alternate futures, Constellations has its two characters encountering the same scenarios multiple times over, each varied nuance either bringing the would-be couple closer together or driving them further apart. In the space of such divergence, can two people truly be destined for one another? Jungle Theater poses the question with a regional premiere, directed by Gary Gisselman, featuring the standout pairing of Anna Sundberg and Ron Menzel, two of the Twin Cities' most engaging performers. While Constellations delves into chance and unpredictability, this emotionally scintillating and intellectually gratifying work is likely to be a highlight of the spring theater season. The show is in previews April 13-14. \$25-\$48; \$15 previews shows. 8 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays; 2 p.m. Sundays; 7:30 p.m. Tuesdays through Thursdays, Sundays. 2951 Lyndale Ave. S., Minneapolis; 612-822-7063. Through May 29 - BRAD RICHASON

ZORONGO FLAMENCO DANCE THEATRE: LORCA'S WOMEN

THE COWLES CENTER FOR DANCE & THE PERFORMING ARTS

Flamenco and gypsy culture infused the work of Spanish poet and dramatist Federico García Lorca. His harsh dramas and sensual poetry made him a hero to the dispossessed people of Andalusia, where flamenco was born. Zorongo Flamenco's founder Susanna di

CONTINUED ON PAGE 27 ▶

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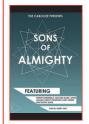




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5/14	The New Orleans Suspects
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CONTINUED FROM FRIDAY ▶

Palma was particularly drawn to the powerful women who inhabit his poems and dramas, including the eponymous tragic heroine in "Yerma," the daughters in "Bernarda Alba," the bride in "Blood Wedding," and the female imagery in the poem "La Luna." Her new work, Lorca's Women, promises to bring these heroines into the present, embodied and emboldened by dancers from Zorongo Flamenco who will be joined by guest dancer Omayra Amaya, guitarist Jose Vallé "Chuscales," and singer Kina Mendez. \$30. 8 p.m. Friday and Saturday: 2 p.m. Sunday. 528 Hennepin Ave., Minneapolis; 612-206-3636.

Through Sunday -LINDA SHAPIRO

COMEDY SEBASTIAN MANISCALCO

PANTAGES THEATRE

"Why would you do that?" This is a question that comedian Sebastian Maniscalco finds himself asking almost daily. Whether it's people checking into hotels with their own toilet seats or shaving in a Starbucks,



JOHN ZHANG

Maniscalco has become somewhat of a crusader against embarrassing public behavior (check his social media hashtag #whywouldyoudothat for more disastrous public displays). This week, he'll be bringing his Aren't You Embarrassed? tour — named after his most recent comedy special — through Minneapolis while preparing to film his

new special next month. Maniscalco became well-known among casual comedy fans when he appeared in Vince Vaughn's Wild West Comedy Show movie back in 2008, and is one of the most unique, hilarious, and straight-forward comedians working today. Later this year, Maniscalco will be releasing his memoir, Where You Want to Eat?, which will tackle his comedy career and, most importantly, how to find the best restaurants wherever you travel. He's also working on a pilot for NBC, aptly titled Sebastian, and is busy with film and voice roles. And while the comedian is performing in bigger theaters than ever before, he's still not above calling someone out in public. "I think we all see things like this. I just do my best to capture it," he says of his mission to maintain social acceptability. \$40.50-\$56.7:30 p.m. 710 Hennepin Ave., Minneapolis; 612-339-7007. —PATRICK STRAIT

ART/GALLERY BOTANICA: JEWELS OF THE EARTH

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CONTINUED ON PAGE 28 ▶





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ELLE PHOTOGRAPHY

CONTINUED FROM FRIDAY ▶

ecosystems combining to create our planet, all are represented in a variety of media, including needlework, cut paper, and painting. Earth, air, sky, and water get their due as science, spirituality, folklore, and mythology ground the work in relatable contexts. There will be an opening reception from 7 to 10 p.m. Friday, April 15. 118 E. 26th St., Minneapolis; 612-239-2047. Through May 13 - CAMILLE LEFEVRE

COMEDY 2ND ANNUAL CHRIS MADDOCK DAY

LIFT BRIDGE BREWERY

When it comes to accolades bestowed upon our homegrown standups, there is no shortage of bragging rights. From late-night TV appearances to national comedy competitions, there are plenty of talents on the local scene who can make a case for being the most successful in Minnesota. Then there's Chris Maddock, who has his own holiday in his hometown of Stillwater. Now in its second year, Chris Maddock Day will take place at Lift Bridge Brewery, and will feature standup from the man himself, as well as from F.O.M. (Friends of Maddock), including Isaac Witty, Nate Abshire, and Colleen Doyle Justice. Stillwater mayor Ted Kozlowski will get in on the action as well, participating in a trivia game called "Are You Smarter Than the Mayor?" Whether you know Maddock as a longtime staple of the Twin Cities comedy scene, the host of the infamous Death Comedy Jam at Grumpy's, or just as some guy who managed to scam his way into his own local holiday, this is your chance to come out, drink beer, and celebrate Stillwater's favorite son. \$10. 7:30 p.m. 1900 Tower Dr. W., Stillwater; 888,430,2337. - PATRICK STRAIT

FASHION

TIM+THOM PRESENT: **BLACK HEARTS BALL**

MUSE EVENT CENTER

This week, Fashion Week MN marches on with sartorial celebrations. This Friday marks the return of Black Hearts Ball. Tim and Thom Navarro's glam cocktail party. At this shindig, seven designers -Danielle Everine, Stacie Yokiel, Emrys Mariel, Lauren Kacher, Sarah Furnae, Lucie Biros, and Bris Carbajal – will be paired with opera singers and classical musicians to create high-drama looks. There will be nary a runway, however, as the evening features vignettes of fashion and performance. This year's event has moved from the Swedish Institute to Muse Event Center in downtown Minneapolis, Cocktails will be served, and black-and-white attire is requested. For tickets and more information, visit www. fashionweekmn.com. \$16.82-\$64.29.7 to 11 p.m. 107 Third Ave. N., Minneapolis; 952-562-5620. **—JESSICA ARMBRUSTER**

SATURDAY 4/16

FASHION

FRESH TRADITIONS FASHION SHOW PRESENTS: ROOTED

PUBLIC FUNCTIONARY

As Fashion Week MN winds down, Public Functionary will host one last party. Each year, Fresh Traditions



ART/GALLERY PHLOX: NEW **PAINTINGS** BY AMY RICE

GROVELAND GALLERY

There is something undeniably joyful about the artwork of Amy Rice. The Minneapolis-based artist's mixed-media pieces revel in a life lived in the Midwest, often playing off of the artist's personal experiences and memories. Judging by her most recent works, she has been doing a bit of garden-

ing, or is at least enjoying nature, as these pieces are bursting with the rebirth of spring. Think blooming lilacs, floral displays, and surprise bouquets. Oh, and there are some dog hugs, too. Meet the artist at the opening reception from 2 to 5 p.m. Saturday, April 16. 25 Groveland Terrace, Minneapolis; 612-377-7800. Through May 14 - JESSICA ARMBRUSTER

highlights the creativity of local Hmong designers in an exciting showcase that features old traditions and modern looks. Garments and accessories from the likes of Maisee

Heurh, Oskar Ly, Khamphian Vang, Xee Vang, and Lylena Yang will hit the catwalk, as well as pieces from past celebrations, and guests can take in live hair and makeup demonstrations

as well. This party doesn't just cover clothes, however, as it will be celebrating Hmong food, music, and visual art as well. Revelers will nosh on edibles from chef Yia Vang, be invited to check out art installations by Kia Kehrer and Peter Phung, and listen to tunes from DJ LWRZN. For tickets and more information, visit www.fashionweekmn.com. \$10.6 to 10 p.m. 1400 12th Ave. NE, Minneapolis; 612-978-5566. **—JESSICA ARMBRUSTER**

ART/GALLERY LIGHTWORKS

CIRCA GALLERY

The new paintings — color fields, color washes - by Janice Mason Steeves are gorgeous. Made from layers of translucent oil and cold wax, the works' colors glow, emanate, illuminate, and move across the canvases. They are Rothkos without limitations or demarcations. Inspired in part by the environment Mason Steeves experienced during a residency in northern Sweden, the paintings nod to the Northern Lights, the quality of midnight, endless summers, and cold ocean water. Minimal, spiritual, and arresting, the works harken back to color studies by mid-century masters, and yet look

forward with incandescence. There will be an opening reception from 5 to 8 p.m. Saturday, April 16. 210 N. First St., Minneapolis; 612-332-2386. Through May 14 - CAMILLE LEFEVRE

SUNDAY 4/17

PARTY

GROWN-UP CLUB'S CASUAL SCIENCE FAIR

SISYPHUS BREWING

Science fairs are generally considered to be kids' stuff. This Sunday, however, the Grownup Club will invite inquisitive adults to examine our world through scientific methods. During the event, 25 participants will form their own hypotheses, test them, and share their discoveries with others. Attendees will learn a bit about explosive chemical reactions, ponder the connection between fart sounds and odor, and consider other weighty topics. Winners will take home \$100, while revelers will learn some fun facts to share over beer with friends. Speaking of beer, the pints will be plentiful. This is an event for grownups, after all. Free. 1 to 4 p.m. 712 Ontario Ave. W., Minneapolis: 612-321-8324. - JESSICA ARMBRUSTER



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SOMEDAY MY BIOPIC WILL COME

Miles Ahead keeps pace with a pioneer

BY MICHAEL NORDINE

he creative process of next-level artists is a siren song that has sent many a filmmaker crashing into the biopic rocks.

So many of these movies ultimately conclude that there's something unknowable about such people, it almost calls the entire genre into question. Why make a movie like this if you're just going to throw up

MILES AHEAD

directed by Don Cheadle opens Friday, Uptown Theatre your shoulders and shrug? Watching people practice their craft day and night isn't sexy, but it would probably give a more accu-

rate view of someone like James Brown than Get On Up.

Don Cheadle doesn't bother with that in Miles Ahead, the passion project of a Miles Davis biopic that he co-wrote, co-produced, directed, and stars in. Ostensibly an inquiry into the iconic trumpeter's lost years in the latter half of the '70s, the film doesn't actually delve into the cause of said hiatus. What it does do is give a feel for his fragmented day-to-day: shuffling around his Brooklyn apartment in various altered states, calling a DJ to tell him to stop overpraising Kind of Blue and play some deep cuts instead.

Per the title (which is taken from one of the ultra-prolific musician's countless recordings), Miles' defining trait is frustration. Frustration with the suits at Columbia Records who want him to record new material at their pace rather than his own, with the reporters who want him to put the ineffable into easily digestible soundbites, with the fans who can't keep up with his skills. He dismisses the albums they canonize as "old shit" that he moved past mentally and musically years ago.

Which explains his simple response to the Rolling Stone writer (Ewan McGregor) who asks why he hasn't put out any new music in years: He hasn't had anything to say. Even if he had, what would be the point? Davis was among the 20th century's few bona-fide musical geniuses, and anything he released or even recorded between '75 and '79 would almost definitionally have been Don Cheadle as Miles Davis

PHOTO BY BRIAN DOUGLAS, COURTESY OF SONY PICTURES CLASSICS

ahead of its time. (In his sandpaper voice and indoor sunglasses, he even objects to the term "jazz," preferring the self-coined "social music" instead.)

This makes it something of a relief — and,

according to Cheadle, a necessary evil to get the movie financed — that much of the film plays like a forced bromance between reporter and subject. Hangout scenes show them hitting the punching bag in between lines of coke and fractured flashbacks. These grace notes are the most revealing of the film, as Miles in his natural habitat is interesting enough on his own.

The present-day plot, such as it is, concerns a session tape recorded a year earlier (in 1978) that Miles is loath to hand over to the fat cats at Columbia lining their pockets with the money he's made them. Meanwhile, his mind never strays far from Frances Taylor (Emayatzy Corinealdi), his ballerina ex-wife. Everything reminds him of her, and the paranoia that drove her away now informs his dealings with everyone else. Miles is simultaneously aided and deceived in the tape-retrieving effort by McGregor's character, whose ulterior motives for help-

It's rarely been more apropos for a biopic to print the legend.

ing the musician belie his genuine fondness

"Be wrong strong," Miles says while leading his band in one of the many memories Cheadle signals with a smash cut. His virtuosity has less to do with getting every note right and more with feeling something and going with it. As such, Cheadle goes to great pains to match the frenetic, freewheeling energy of that music: The camera comes in and out of focus, timelines bleed together (at least in Miles' mind).

Cheadle hits the right balance between Davis as he was perceived by others and how he saw himself — it's rarely been more apropos for a biopic to print the legend. However incomplete Miles Ahead can sometimes feel on a moment-to-moment basis, the fact that it doesn't presume to be a comprehensive overview of its subject may be the only proper approach. It's sometimes wrong, but almost always strong.





CHEER LEADERS

Seeking joy through old-fashioned humor



DAN NORMAN

BY JAY GABLER

our Humors' We Gotta Cheer Up Gary features a trio of "licensed cheerologists" (Jason Ballweber. Mike Fotis, and Ryan Lear) who promise to infuse each client with a burst of joy in just a few minutes. Obviously that's not enough time for the kind of therapy that will dig down to the source of discomfort, but it might be enough to inspire a quick grin if the joke is stupid enough or if the pratfall is goofy enough.

The jumpsuited cheerologists are used to working one-on-one, so at the beginning of the show they're a bit taken aback to discover that they're confronted with dozens of Garys — as many Garys, in fact, as will fit on the stage of the Southern Theater. Audience members are confined to that space after being given "Gary" nametags.

Fortunately, in We Gotta Cheer Up Gary the trio have more than mere minutes to work with: It's more like a full hour for this show, which comes to the company's hometown after a successful run in last year's Cincinnati Fringe Festival. It's a very Fringe-like piece, rough and ready with just a few key props: a rubber chicken, a ukulele, a double-ended dildo, and not much else.

The cheerologists aren't particularly cheerful themselves. As the play opens, they're informed by their lab-coated supervisor (Dario Tangelson, the show's director) that someone's getting fired tomorrow unless they are able to achieve the improbable feat

WE GOTTA CHEER UP GARY

Southern Theater 1420 S. Washington Ave., Minneapolis Through April 22; 612-326-1811

of cheering the full contingent of Garys.

It's sobering news, especially when added to the cheerologists' personal challenges: Fotis is stressed about his son's relationship, and Lear is beginning to have doubts about his fiancée's fidelity. (On the phone: "I love you so much! Um, are you slapping two pieces of meat together?")

Part of the shtick is that these aren't the most original performers, and the extent to which you are personally cheered by the show will depend on how amused you are by intentionally stilted improv, flubbed magic tricks, and dated jokes ("Here's one from the 1920s. What does an orphan have in common with a bottle of champagne?"). The best bit in the show is a magic performance that involves a silent Ballweber conjuring a distinctly subdued razzle-dazzle while Herb Alpert's "A Taste of Honey" plays on cassette.

A strange, sad interlude involving a rigged umbrella, a spoken-word performance, and a moody Eurythmics cover closes the show on a peculiar note. Many of my fellow audience members certainly walked away cheered - throughout the evening, the laughter had been loud and long — but I just felt indifferent. Well, I guess cheering 50 people at once was a pretty tall order.

HOMEGROWN: LOCAL HIP HOP.

APR 14

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CHRISTELLE DE CASTRO

SANTIGOLD

MILL CITY NIGHTS, SATURDAY 4.16

Shrink-wrapped amid a clutter of pop culture effluvia, Santigold looks ready for vending action on the cover of her new album, 99¢. The Philly-born singer's third solo release is intended as a commentary on the commodification of culture, something of a slippery slope considering her music has been used to advertise cars, soda, and department stores. So when the real-life Santi White sings "All I want to do is bottle it to sell" in "Can't Get Enough of Myself," the line between irony, satire, and truth gets a bit thin. Moreover, the prevailing 99¢ sound is shiny pop, still punctuated with her trademark multi-genre forays (R&B, dub, electronica, reggae, hip-hop, punk), but less incisively than on 2013's Master of My Make-Believe. Thankfully, a slew of collaborators — Rostam Batmanglij, Patrik Berger, Cathy Dennis — help keep Santigold from getting mired in polemics. The reggaeish "Can't Get Enough" and power-pop nugget "Banshee" are 99¢ highlights. The single dud is "Who Be Lovin'Me," a disconsolate duet with Drake collaborator iLoveMakonnen, DonMonique opens, 18+, \$27.50-\$50. 9 p.m. 111 Fifth St. N., Minneapolis; 612-333-3422. - RICK MASON

CARNAGE THE EXECUTIONER

7TH ST. ENTRY, FRIDAY 4.15

It's hard to believe Twin Cities rapper/ beatboxer Carnage the Executioner has never headlined 7th St. Entry, but Friday's show will be the real-life Terrell Woods' first time atop the bill. That's cause for celebration enough, but the lyrical vet will also be kicking off his tour and debuting a pair of music videos from his upcoming solo album, The Minnesota Mean Movement. The outspoken Carnage says the movement has to do with fighting back against the forced politeness of Minnesota Nice. He considers the phenomenon a barrier to honest conversations on race relations in the North Star State, and he's set that sentiment to music, as we've previously seen in the video for the album's title track. Cali's Katana Da Don and local emcee Andre Mariette lead the way for a slew of hip-hop-focused openers. 18+. \$8-\$10. 8 p.m. 701 First Ave. N., Minneapolis; 612-338-8388. —JERARD FAGERBERG

HOT CELLARS

331 CLUB, FRIDAY 4.15

Minneapolis retro rockers Hot Cellars put out four singles en route to becoming one

of the most talked-about bands named after uncomfortably warm subterranean living spaces. It might be because of how easy it is to sub the band's moniker into the chorus of Foreigner's 1978 hit "Hot Blooded" - try it! - or because of the group's washed-out Midwest coast vibes. Either way, Hot Cellars are celebrating their debut album, Summer Voodoo, which will drop unseasonably early Friday at the 331. The band is working on getting all attendees free downloads of the new LP, promising, "We'll figure that out eventually," so stay tuned. The Sex Rays and What Tyrants open the release party. If you like what you see/hear, you can catch Hot Cellars again at the Midwest Music Fest in Winona, Minnesota, from April 28-30. 21+. Free. 10 p.m. 331 13th Ave. NE, Minneapolis; 612-331-1746. - JERARD FAGERBERG

FATHER JOHN MISTY

NORTHROP, SATURDAY 4.16

Father John Misty is the alias of Joshua Tillman, who first checked in as a solo artist by writing slow, lonesome folk songs as J. Tillman, then ascended to the role of drummer/backing vocalist in indie-folk heavyweights Fleet Foxes. Still, the FJM





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project is such a thorough reinvention that his prior music now seems worlds behind him. In 2012, Tillman released his Misty debut, Fear Fun, where a lively, Gram Parsons-esque twang and a sardonic, mushrooms-influenced writing voice announced his new persona and sound. The masterful follow-up, last year's I Love You, Honeybear, sincerely and hilariously depicted love and marriage with doses of irony and cynicism. Misty's down-to-earth nature kept the album's sweeping horn and string arrangements from feeling too billowy. These days, the unforgettably original Tillman is a songwriter equally as respected as Fleet Foxes frontman Robin Pecknold. With Tess & Dave. \$35. 7:30 p.m. 84 Church St. SE, Minneapolis; 612-625-6003. -MICHAEL MADDEN

CHICK COREA & BÉLA FLECK

GUTHRIE THEATER, MONDAY 4.18

The peculiar coupling of a piano-banjo duet gains instant credibility when the musicians involved are a pair of virtuosi - pianist Chick Corea and banjoist Béla Fleck. Both are broadly eclectic, embracing jazz, classical, and numerous tangents in between. Consistently on the cutting edge, they're inventive improvisers whose intellectual restlessness knows no bounds. Fleck, the bluegrass to bop to Bach picker, has long cited Correa, chief instigator of the groundbreaking fusion group Return to Forever, as a key influence. Their mutual admiration led to the 2007's The Enchantment, then eight years of live performances, the best of which were released last fall as the double album Two. Fleck and Corea revisit all The Enchantment material in extensively reworked form, including rangy, playfully impetuous improvs. Corea's title track is a lush, classical meditation with jazz and Spanish tinges; Fleck's exquisitely swirling "Menagerie" flirts with flamenco, dissonance, and blues. \$45-\$90. 7:30 p.m. 818 S. Second St., Minneapolis; 612-377-2224. – RICK MASON

FREDDIE GIBBS

7TH ST. ENTRY, MONDAY 4.18

On first listen, Indiana's Freddie Gibbs is an uncompromising gangsta rapper, one of rough, anti-pop edges. The accumulation of production styles he's rapped over during his decade-long career has added dimension to that temperament. Following a lengthy run of hard, dark mixtapes, EPs, and 2013's ESGN album, Gangsta Gibbs reached a new era of his career, ushered in with his kaleidoscopic, Madlib-produced *Piñata* album. It's a record that brought out new flows and even a goofy sense of humor over funk, soul, and psychedelic production. The follow-up album that he's currently touring behind, last fall's

Shadow of a Doubt, was more personal, and it pivoted with sounds that made for natural connections with guests ranging from the Roots' Black Thought to Gucci Mane. Throughout his progression, Gibbs has utilized his competitive drive to flaunt his technical rapping abilities and explore new musical terrain. With local MCs Sean Anonymous and Baby Shel. 18+. Sold out. 8 p.m. 701 First Ave. N., Minneapolis; 612-338-8388. -MICHAEL MADDEN

ANDREW BIRD

FIRST AVENUE, TUESDAY 4.19

Marriage and fatherhood have changed Andrew Bird. So has living in L.A. Seriously. The evidence is all over his new album, Are You Serious, so much so that the erstwhile dabbler in crazy wordplay, literary allusions, and obtuse references forgot the title's question mark with no apparent ulterior motive. The classically trained Bird is still sawing on his fiddle, but his quirky lyric obscurities have given way to straightforward, even confessional narratives. Among the recent travails confronted in the Bird nest: toddlerhood, his wife's successful battle with cancer, and relocating from New York to La La Land. Bird even wrote an obvious love song, "Left Handed Kisses," on which he duets with Fiona Apple. "Valleys of Young," an unsettling electro-rocker, recounts crossing the "great divide" between parenthood and the young/kidless. And "Capsized" is a funk-light paean to togetherness and its unappetizing alternative. Brooklyn trio Dawn of Midi opens. 18+. \$36. 7 p.m. 701 First Ave. N., Minneapolis; 612-338-8388. -RICK MASON

THE THERMALS

TURF CLUB, TUESDAY 4.19

Increasingly, it seems as though synths and other electronics are taking over indie music. That's definitely not the case with Portland, Oregon, trio the Thermals, who stick to the guitar-driven, melodic basics while delivering messages about love, death, politics, and technology. Each song is an essay, but with surplus distorted hooks to make it all palatable. The veteran indie-rock band has released records with Sub Pop, Kill Rock Stars, and Saddle Creek, the last of which released their seventh and most recent full-length, last month's We Disappear. The Chris Walla-produced LP is dark but catchy, deep but concise, thoughtful but loud. The Turf Club's intimate stage should be the perfect setting for the band's poppy blasts of punk rock. They'll be joined by fellow Portlanders Summer Cannibals and locals Catbath. 21+. \$16. 7:30 p.m. 1601 University Ave. W., St. Paul; 651-647-0486. -LOREN GREEN





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Scents and Sensibility

Can I buy his dirty underwear?



Dan Savage

'm a 49-year-old gay man. I've become friends with a hot 21-year-old straight guy. He's had to drop out of college and return home. I know he needs money, as he hasn't found a job yet and has resorted to selling offold music equipment. I would love to have some sweaty clothes of his, namely his underwear, but I'd settle for a sweaty tank top. Is it legal to buy someone's underwear? He's a sweet guy, and I don't want to freak him out by asking something so personal. How do I broach the subject?

LUSTFULLY OBSESSED STINK SEEKER

It's perfectly legal to buy and sell used underwear, LOSS, so there's no legal risk. But you risk losing this guy as a friend if you broach the subject. You can approach it indirectly by saying something like "So sorry to hear you're selling off your music equipment. You're young and hot — you could probably make more money selling used underwear or sweaty tanks." Then follow his lead: If he's disgusted by the suggestion, drop it. If he's into the idea, offer to be his first customer.

I'm a 52-year-old straight guy, 29 years married. About eight years ago, I met a lady through work and we became friends. Both of us are in long-term, committed monogamous relationships, and our friendship is strictly platonic. We share a love of cycling and kayaking, which we do together on occasion. The problem is that my wife gets jealous of the time we spend together and wants me to cut off contact with my friend. She doesn't trust my friend not to "take advantage" of our friendship. My relationship with my wife is the most important one in my life, so I am prepared to say good-bye to my friend. How do I say good-bye in a respectful, caring, and loving way? If she asks why we cannot be friends, I don't want to tell her, "Because my wife doesn't trust you not to try to get inside my pants," as that would be hurtful. I don't want to lie, but telling the truth would be damaging to my friend.

PADDLING AND RIDING TERMINATES

Your friend is going to waste a lot of time wondering what she did wrong if you don't tell her the real reason you can't hang out with her anymore. And guess what? This not knowing will cause her more hurt than

the truth could. So tell your friend the real reason she's out of your life: Your wife is an insecure bag of slop who regards her as a threat. Your friend has a right to know she's as blameless as you are spineless. Forgive me for being harsh, PART, but I think standing up to your wife, not dropping your friend, is the best approach to this situation.

I am totally with your German friend, who wouldn't do Nazi role-play "in six million years." I'm a white British guy. While living in the U.K., I was dating a woman from Bangalore. She revealed that her deepest fantasy was to be an Indian slave girl raped by an English imperialist. And then, living in the U.S. a few years later, I was dating a black woman, who revealed that her own fantasy was to be the slave on a plantation, raped by her white owner. I didn't want to stigmatize these women for their sexual desires, and I wanted to be GGG. But being asked to act out roles I feel guilty about, and to use the kind of racial epithets I make every effort to avoid... the guilt is a bonerkiller. Any tips on how a GGG partner can get past this kind of mental block and at least act the role enthusiastically enough to fulfill the fantasy?

> I MIGHT PLAY EVERY ROLE I'M ASKED LESS IDEOLOGICALLY-SCRUPULOUS MOTIVES

My advice for people asked to play monsters in the bedroom mirrors my advice to a gay guy attracted to degrading "antigay" gay porn: "A person can safely explore degrading fantasies - even fantasies rooted in 'hate ideologies' - so long as he/she is capable of compartmentalizing this stuff. Basically, you have to build a fire wall between your fantasies and your self-esteem. (And between your fantasies and your politics.)"

If you can build a fire wall between their fantasies and your politics and beliefs, IMPERIALISM, go for it. If you can't, don't.

mail@savagelove.net

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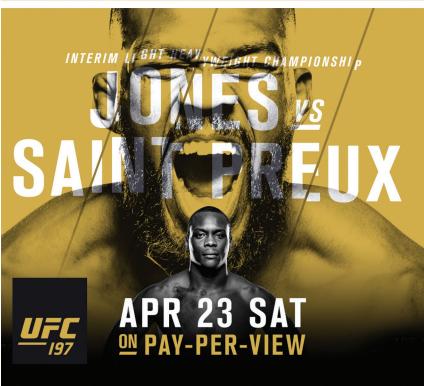
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BY BRENDAN EMMETT QUIGLEY

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- 18 2016 Zoë Saldana biopic
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Last Week's Answer

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